



Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests

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Fire Update

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Fire activity picks up

Kamiah, Idaho , August 27, 2015 – Numerous fires continue to burn across the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, many of which are being grouped together and managed as complexes. Suppression action is being taken on priority fires as firefighting resources become available.

An additional area closure near Lolo Pass has been enacted, and closures south of Highway 12 have been expanded due to fire activity on the Forests' central zone. A segment of St. Joe Divide Trail 233 was closed, restricting access into the Five Lakes Butte area.

The following is a summary of the major complexes and fires burning across the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests which are **not** assigned to incident management teams. Acreages are approximate as smoke and lack of infrared detection date has made mapping difficult.

North Zone (Palouse and North Fork Ranger Districts)

Name: **Larkin Complex** Location: Roughly 30 airline miles NE of Pierce
Started: August 17, 2015 Cause: Lightning
Total Acreage: 3035 acres Containment: 0% Contained
Fires originally within the Complex (including Wolf Pack Fires): 14
Active Fires within the Complex: Snow Creek Fire 2300 acres, Wolf Pack Fire 980 acres, and Heather Fire 1370 acres, Minnesaka 230, and Roaring 100.
Major Events: Fire activity has increased, with the Heather fire doubling in acreage. A segment of St. Joe Divide Trail 233 has been closed limiting access into Five Lakes Butte.

Name: **Scurvy Mountain Fire** Location: 28 miles ENE of Pierce, Idaho
Started: August 21, 2015 Cause: Lightning
Total Acreage: 390 acres Containment: 0% contained
Major Events: Fire continues its spread toward Scurvy Mountain Lookout.

Central Zone (Lochsa-Powell and Moose Creek Ranger Districts)

Name: **Lochsa South Complex**
Location: South of Lochsa River from Warm Springs Creek to the Selway River
Started: August 15, 2015 Cause: Lightning
Total Acreage: 1000+ acres Containment: 0% Contained
Fires originally within Lochsa South Complex: 12

Active Fires within the Complex: Sponge Fire 1500 acres, Grit Fire 500 acres, Lone Knob Fire 200 acres, Fire Lake 500 acres, Airstrip Fire 1000 acres.

Major Events: Airstrip Fire was active.

Name: **Wilderness Complex**

Location: Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness (much of the Moose Creek Ranger District)

Started: August 4, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 8500 acres

Containment: 0% Contained

Fires originally within the Wilderness Complex: 8

Active Fires within the Complex: Army Mule Fire 3500 acres, Baily Fire 1100 acres, and Meeker Fire 1000 acres.

Major Events: Point protection continues for Wilderness cabins, pack bridges and lookouts.

Name: **Boulder Fire**

Location: **5 miles west of Lolo Pass**

Started: August 14, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 3000 acres

Containment: 0% contained

Major Events: Atmospheric instability, warmer temperatures and increased winds are causing increased fire activity. An area west of Lolo Pass in the vicinity of Granite Pass is closed.

South Zone (Salmon River and Red River Ranger Districts)

Name: **Red River Complex**

Location: South of Elk City, Idaho

Started: August 17, 2015

Cause: Lightning

Total Acreage: 7330 acres

Containment: 5% Contained

Fires originally within Red River Complex: 6 fires

Active fires within the complex: Noble Fire 100 acres, Lone Park Fire 2000 acres,

Rattlesnake Fire 1500 acres, Crown Fire 2500 acres, Little Green Fire 1155 acres.

Major Events: Noble Fire reported two weeks ago was located southwest of Mallard Creek Ranch. Boston Mountain is likely to be impacted by Lone Park and Crown Fires. Structure protection is ongoing at Cook Ranch, Mallard Creek Ranch, Green Mountain Lookout and Bargamin Creek Bridge.

Many roads and trails have been closed due to fire activity. These closures and fire information is posted at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/nezperceclearwater/home>. Click on the "Fire Information" icon at the top of the page.

Information for the Clearwater, Motorway, Selway, and Municipal Fire Complexes is available at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov>.

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